# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# RAILWAYS
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1614
ANSWERED ON:04.05.2016
Book Stalls at Railway Stations
Chudasama Shri Rajeshbhai Naranbhai

**Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:**

(a) whether the Government has drawn up plans to encourage the habit of reading among children and youngsters by setting up book stalls managed by the National Book Trust at all railway stations in the country and if so, the details thereof;
(b) whether book stalls at railway stations presently run by private vendor licencees are partially used to store and sell medicines, cosmetics and toiletries; and
(c) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS
(SHRI MANOJ SINHA)

(a): No, Madam. At present, there are no plans for setting up bookstalls managed by the National Book Trust at all railway stations in the country. However, National Book Trust can set up bookstalls at stations by participating in the allotment process when NIT (Notice Inviting Tender) is published.
(b) & (c): Yes, Madam. As per Chemist Stall Policy 2000, Zonal Railways have been permitted to operate chemist corners within the existing bookstall by carving out an approximate space of 10 Sq. Ft. to cater to the requirements of passengers. Medicines which do not require prescription from a medical practitioner and toiletry items like soaps, toothpastes, toothbrush, hair oil, baby food and cosmetics etc., have been permitted for sale from these chemist corners.

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